

NEA NEWSLETTER

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C O V E R — As a young boy, Danbury, Connecticut, historian and educator Dr. Truman Warner recognized the importance of preserving history. His expansive collection of local history resources documents a lifetime of collecting and was recently processed by a group of volunteers; archivist Mary Rieke writes about her experiences as a graduate student assistant on the project. Truman is shown in Italy where he was stationed as a medic with the U.S. Army during World War II. *Courtesy of Western Connecticut State University Archives and Special Collections (Around and About, page 24).*

I N S I D E — In "The Passion of the Archivist," Jeffrey Marshall reflects on what inspires him in his career. (*Open Forum, page 4*).

**New England Archivists
Massachusetts Archives
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<www.newenglandarchivists.org>**

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Membership in *New England Archivists, Inc.* is open to all.

Dues of \$30/year (\$40 for institutions) should be sent to: Rodney Obien, WPI Archives and Special Collections, Gordon Library, 100 Institute Road, Worcester, MA 01609.

Notices of archival events should be sent to: NEA c/o Massachusetts Archives, 220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, MA 02125, or electronically to <michael.forstrom@yale.edu>.

The *NEA Newsletter* is published in January, April, July and October. The contents of the *Newsletter* may be reproduced in whole or in part provided that credit is given.

Articles and **News** of interest to archivists, historical society members, historians, and other NEA members should be sent to: *NEA Newsletter* Editors, Massachusetts Archives, 220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, MA 02125, or <newsletter@newenglandarchivists.org>.

Contributions to the NEA Web site should be sent to: <webcoordinator@newenglandarchivists.org>.

Deadlines for submitting materials are:

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May 15 for July issue
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From the Editors

- Meg Moughan

The holidays are fast becoming a distant memory, and the harsh month of January is upon us with its requisite short days and long nights and realization that spring is still months away here in New England. Hopefully, the January issue of the *Newsletter* will brighten your mailboxes. This issue offers much food for thought; our hope is that it will inspire you to think about what it means to be both an archivist and a member of NEA.

In the *From the President* column, Mary Ide states that “the work of archivists is vital to the good health and vibrancy of the local and national community and to democracy itself.” In her piece, Mary writes about the participation of NEA members in Membership Information Input sessions at the fall 2004 conference; these sessions were designed to encourage an open exchange of ideas about the future direction and mission of the organization. The sessions were an opportunity for members to take an active role in determining the role of archives within our communities. Along the same lines, Jeffrey Marshall, in a departure from our usual format and in place of the *Archival Insight*, comments on

his career as an archivist in an *Open Forum* piece. In it, Jeffrey discusses what drives and motivates him in this profession and shares a bit of his passion for the job; we encourage other members to come forward and share their own professional experience in essay form. In *Around and About*, a relatively new archivist discusses both the frustrations and rewards of working on a volunteer-staffed processing project. Despite the obstacles she and a team of volunteers faced in what was her first significant processing job, Mary Rieke continues as a processing archivist and is appreciative of the lessons she was able to take away from the project.

With the end of Chris Burns’ term as senior and Inside NEA editor and the departure of News and Notes editor Michelle Light (who has accepted a new position as the Head of Technical Services for the University of Washington’s Special Collections), we welcome two new editors to the *Newsletter*. Sheila Spalding and Michael Forstrom have come on board as the new Inside the NEA and News and Notes editors. ☺

☺ NEW ENGLAND ARCHIVISTS ☺

NEA 2004 Elections Announcement

The NEA Nominating Committee, with the approval of the Executive Board, has assembled a slate of candidates to run for the offices of Vice President/President Elect, Treasurer, and Representative at Large. The candidates’ names and autobiographical statements will be posted on the NEA Web site, at <www.newenglandarchivists.org>, and mailed to all current NEA members next month along with the ballot.

Your vote is very important; many NEA elections have been decided by fewer than three votes! If you have any questions about the election, please contact Rutherford Witthus at <rww0001@hotmail.com> or (215) 849-1007.

From the NEA Bylaws, IV.6: Officers and representatives-at-large shall be elected by mail ballot of a majority of those members voting, from a slate presented by the nominating committee. Nominees must be members of New England Archivists. At least two candidates shall be slated for each office. The slate shall include the name of any member nominated by a petition signed by not less than ten per cent of the membership and received by the chair of the nominating committee not later than sixty days in advance of the annual meeting. The ballot shall contain space for write-in candidates for each office. Ballots shall be mailed to members at least thirty days in advance of the annual meeting. To be counted, ballots must be returned to the chair of the nominating committee postmarked not later than ten days in advance of the annual meeting, and received by said chair not later than the second day before the annual meeting.

Open Forum

The Passion of the Archivist

Jeffrey D. Marshall, University Archivist and Curator of the Wilbur Vermontiana Collection at the University of Vermont.

One lovely September day a few years ago I was training a new work/study student in some of the rather mundane tasks that constantly need to be done in my office when she posed an unexpected and, some might say, a highly impertinent question: “What is it that you’re passionate about?” I gave her a quizzical look; she went on at some length about the need for the *living* to be engaged in *meaningful* activities. She did not mean to be rude, I am sure, but there was enough exasperation in her voice to suggest that she sensed, and was repulsed by, the desperately stultifying life of the archivist and librarian. Or mine, at any rate. And who could blame her? A first-year student who had never stepped inside an archives before, she found herself filing folders in a windowless office stacked with “dusty old boxes,” an office inhabited by a mild-mannered, middle-aged man who looked like he never did anything more exciting than attend the annual Turkey Dinner at the Georgia Plains Baptist Church.

Several possible responses occurred to me:

“I am passionate about the titanic struggle between order and disorder.”

“I am passionate about the pursuit of knowledge.”

“I am a roiling cauldron of passions inside, and I chose this career specifically to deaden my wild impulses.”

“You’re right. I never wanted to be an archivist. I want to be—a lumberjack!”

Only the second one was true, but it sounded too much like an Admissions Office recruitment cliché. So I showed her the book of Civil War letters I had recently published, which was a really fun experience if not a passionate one, and that seemed to give her pause—maybe there *was* more to this boring old guy than meets the eye.

Unfortunately I had a meeting to go to, and that was the last time I ever saw this student. I am glad she asked the question, even if she never heard an adequate answer. It is refreshing to meet a student more focused on the meaning of life than how soon she can make her first million. There never was any danger of my withering into a dry, dusty denizen of an information attic, indistinguishable from the books and documents I oversee. At the same time, asking the question periodically, “what am I passionate about?” is a good way to keep perspective on one’s job.

And so, with a little time to reflect, I can say this: I am passionate about understanding, and teaching others, how people in the past lived their lives—how they did their day’s work, how they traveled from one place to another, how they cooked and ate their food. I am insatiably curious about their innermost thoughts and feelings. I want to know what they experienced. And the answers are right here for any-

one to find, in our old books, manuscripts, university records, photographs, and maps. Who could not be moved by the 1854 letter from a distraught woman describing the deaths of several children from scarlet fever and how it took three people to restrain a young man maddened by the fever? Who could not be delighted to read what a university student really thought about his professors in the “golden years” of the classical college? What could be more fascinating than a photograph of Burlington taken from a church steeple 150 years ago?

Getting the inside story is one of the great pleasures of working in a place where history makers and history researchers cross paths. Some of our patrons who have rubbed shoulders with the famous and infamous cannot resist telling anecdotes, most of which will never appear in print. While the archivist needs to deal professionally with donors and patrons, and needs to maintain the strictest standard of confidentiality, there is no rule against listening when knowledgeable people want to talk. Most often, though, what I hear is new ideas, newly uncovered facts, and a great deal of learned speculation. People come into my workplace almost every day and tell me things that I did not know. This is a place where people come to think and learn and, often, to share what they learn. It is also a place where, on occasion, I can offer insight on a particular topic and suggest avenues of research that would not be obvious even if all of our collections were well cataloged and indexed.

There is nothing quite as satisfying as helping someone locate an ancestor's house on an old map, or discovering a document that provides historical context for an archeological site. I have assisted several famous writers with research materials, but even better, I have helped a few graduate and undergraduate students get their work published in scholarly journals.

This bed of roses does have its thorns. Patrons can be surly, administrators unreasonable, and backlogs uncannily resistant to processing. It often seems that my desk is paralyzed by unfinished tasks that are simply waiting for a return phone call, an uninterrupted hour of attention, or (more likely) a decision that will have consequences I am reluctant to face. I once had a conversation with a visiting university trustee who remarked that working in Special Collections must be a remarkably stress-free way to make a living. I have to admit that, apart from trying to do what really

amounts to two full-time jobs, dealing with an occasionally serious ethical dilemma, regularly throwing my day's work plan out the window to deal with something urgent, and having to confront folks who think they have every right to eat dinner in our reading room, check out non-circulating materials, and insist that I break the copyright law—other than that, yes, it is pretty relaxing here!

In truth, and contrary to the popular stereotype of librarians (archivists tend to be painted with the same brush), we in Special Collections spend most of our time working with people, whether it be patrons, donors, dealers and vendors, administrators, v.i.p.s, or colleagues. Any such job can be both stressful and rewarding, but it is seldom boring.

I guess I have a passion for the roses, thorns and all. Why would I want to work anywhere else? What could possibly be more interesting than a busy research library, where

something different is happening every day, where brilliant people hang out, where the treasures of history are stored?

I make an effort now, when new work/study students are assigned to me, to explain what goes on in Special Collections and why it is the most exciting place in the world to work. I let them hold the rare Vermont imprint that George Washington held in his hands and boldly signed, and view the streets of Burlington, circa 1865, through a stereopticon. I might show them one of only a few dozen surviving letters written by Ethan Allen, something which every Vermont student may be able to identify. True, most of what my student assistants will be doing is not very glamorous and, in fact, can be downright tedious. But when the object is kept in mind—preserving history and making it accessible—the work becomes more meaningful for them, and for me. ©



Join us in Boston for the **New England Archivists Spring Meeting** (April 28-30, 2005). The Spring Program and other details will be posted on the NEA Web site at <www.newenglandarchivists.org>. An aerial shot of Simmons College, the site of the Spring 2005 NEA Conference. *Photograph by Laurence Lowry and courtesy of Simmons College Archives.*

Internet Tidbits

- Kathleen J. Barker, *Massachusetts Historical Society*

November 18, 2004, marked the opening of the William J. Clinton Presidential Library in Little Rock, Arkansas. The library joins ten other facilities currently administered by the Office of Presidential Libraries within the National Archives and Records Administration. Although President Clinton's papers are still being processed, visitors to the library's Web site can learn more about some of the collections currently available to researchers, including papers related to the White House Health Care Interdepartmental Working Group and the Domestic Policy Council. For more information please visit the Web site at <www.clintonlibrary.gov>.

While all of the presidential libraries' Web sites contain finding aids and other descriptive tools, a few libraries have made selected portions of their collections available online. The Franklin Delano Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum, at <www.fdrlibrary.marist.edu/index.html>, presents 13,000 pages of material on its Web site, including documents kept locked in Roosevelt's White House safe (known as the safe files) and materials pertaining to U.S.-Vatican relations during World War II, U.S.-German relations in the 1930s and 1940s, and Anglo-American relations from 1934-1945. Visitors can access images of original documents with transcriptions, via a keyword search or by browsing individual series. The library's Web site also provides access to over 1,000 photographs of Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt, the Great Depression, and World War II. Visitors can search photographs by keyword or through a browse feature, but in both cases the item lists are arranged by library identification number (instead of by subject or date), and many of the image titles are not very descriptive.

Other presidential libraries also provide access to their collections, albeit on a more limited basis. The Truman Presidential Museum and Library's Web site, at <www.trumanlibrary.org>, features a database containing over 2,100 photographs spanning the years 1881-1987 (bulk: 1944-1960). Visitors can search the collection by keyword or browse the collection by date, name, or subject. Detailed captions make it easy to jump to additional photographs of related subjects and individuals. The Web site also presents a recently discovered Truman artifact: his 1947

diary, which contains scattered entries describing both his personal and presidential activities. Visitors can select a specific date from a pull-down menu or scroll through the diary page by page.

Oral history enthusiasts should visit the Lyndon Baines Johnson Library and Museum's Web site, at <www.lbjlib.utexas.edu>, which features transcriptions of over seventy-five oral history interviews available in PDF format. The collection is composed primarily of interviews conducted for the library by the University of Texas Oral History Project and the LBJ Library Oral History Project, and several of the interview transcripts currently available online were conducted while Johnson was still in office. Interviewees range from politicians and members of the president's inner circle to civil rights leaders, journalists, and cultural figures, such as Erich Leinsdorf, an orchestra conductor whose immigration to the United States in 1738 was facilitated by Johnson.

A complete list of the presidential libraries administered by NARA is available at <www.archives.gov/presidential_libraries/index.html>. ☺

People

Karen Eberhart is now Director of the Rhode Island Historical Society Research Library and Manuscripts Curator.

Michelle Light, former Assistant Archivist at Northeastern University, has relocated to Seattle, Washington, where she will be working as the Head of Technical Services for the University of Washington's Special Collections.

Steve Butzel of Brandeis University Archives, recently started a new blog called "DRIZZLE", available at <www.myunclesteve.com/drizzle>. DRIZZLE features news stories and commentary of interest to archivists, records managers and other students/professionals. The point of DRIZZLE is not to include a comprehensive listing of all news stories of interest, but rather to highlight a select few that are particularly interesting and likely to provoke online discussion and debate. ☺

Inside NEA

From the President

- Mary Ide

Thanks to the excellent work of the 2004 Fall Program and Local Arrangements Committees, the NEA Conference at the University of New England in Biddeford, Maine, was an overwhelming success. More than 200 people attended the two-day conference. Clearly NEA's efforts to reach out to cultural institutions in Maine and northern New Hampshire succeeded in bringing new people to our organization. According to the evaluations, conference attendees found the Theory and Practice theme particularly attractive and liked Friday's mini "hand's on" session format.

More than sixty NEA members attended one of the four Membership Information Input (MII) sessions, sharing ideas about future directions and programs for NEA. The points presented and discussed at these open forums were all of the following: intriguing, thoughtful, practical and ambitious. At this writing, an email has gone out on the NEAdiscuss listserv inviting members who could not attend the conference to provide their input on questions regarding future directions for NEA. All responses from the conference and listserv will be compiled into a report for consideration and response by the Board at our 2005 spring meeting.

My impression from the MII process thus far is that our greatest challenge is how will NEA, a totally volunteer organization, successfully meet the rising advocacy and education expectations of its membership? I believe that NEA will meet this challenge if we commit ourselves to actively recruiting new members, continue to actively energize and support committees and the conference planning process, and serve as personal advocates for NEA in our workplaces, local communities, and personal lives.

In addition to the wonderful work of the NEA conferences and the Membership and Outreach Committees' efforts towards recruiting new members, it will be up to each of us, individually, to ensure that we meet the needs and challenges of the future by actively inviting colleagues to attend our conferences and to join NEA. On a related point, we will have a new brochure ready soon, our Web

site is being updated on a regular basis, and we plan to launch the membership directory on the Web site within the next few months.

As many have said and as remains as critically important today as ever, the work of archivists is vital to the good health and vibrancy of the local and national community and to democracy itself. An important role of NEA is to be a recognized and respected advocate for archives and archivists in New England. ☺

Executive Board Meeting Report

- Elizabeth Slomba

The business handled at the October 15, 2004 meeting of the Executive Board is summarized below. All **VOTING** is in bold and italics. Complete minutes are available on the NEA Web site, at <www.newenglandarchivists.org>, or from the secretary.

Mary Ide called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. Minutes from the June 17, 2004 Board Meeting were presented. ***All members voted in favor of the June 17, 2004 Board Meeting and the 2004 Annual Business Meeting minutes.***

Officers' Reports

President

Mary Ide discussed the planning initiative to be held at the fall 2004 meeting. She also mentioned the need for an officers' handbook.

Vice President

Paul Carnahan reported on a possible date of March 10-11 for the spring 2006 meeting at Boston College; however, according to the bylaws, there will be a conflict with Board elections because of the early date. If this date were chosen, a special vote would need to be taken to modify bylaws governing membership dates, ballot mailings, and election dates. Similar action was taken before on account of the late-March date of the spring 2002 meeting. Paul said he would confer with the Membership Secretary regarding this issue. Paul will also be considering other possible

Boston locations, as well as an offer from the archivist for the Mashantucket Indian tribe to host the spring 2006 meeting.

Treasurer

Liz Andrews presented the draft budget; the NEA fiscal year ends on December 31. The budget includes additional expenses of \$1,000 to the Society of American Archivists for Mary Ide's attendance at a meeting in Washington, D.C. Revenue for NEA is down by \$2,000. Although registration projections for the spring 2004 meeting were met, membership numbers are down. The registration numbers for the fall 2004 meeting could approach 200 attendees. Liz added that if no funding is set aside in the 2005 budget for specific projects or initiatives then projects and initiatives requiring funding will need to wait until January 2006 to be financed.

The Board discussed funding for NEA Web site projects. Anne Sauer mentioned that the Board could hire someone to do page clean-up, check addresses, and fix design elements on the Web site. It was proposed that the Web Committee could be funded in the same way as the Newsletter Committee. The Board could review the Web Committee spending and budget in six months. Liz explained that, based on current NEA income, she would not need to take money from other budgeted lines to find funding for the Web Committee. But she warned that if contributions or donations do not come in and the membership numbers keep declining, then NEA will need to review spending.

The Board then discussed various budget requests and needs. The Print Coordinator requested \$250 for her budget. The Membership Committee requested \$1,254. The Board discussed the Outreach Committee budget needs regarding printing bookmarks and expenses for Archives on the Road events. The Board suggested that the Outreach budget be \$1,400 to cover these expenses.

All members voted in favor that the Board approve the draft budget as sent on September 29, 2004, with additions for \$1,400 for the Outreach Committee, \$1,000 for the Web Committee, \$250 for the Print Coordinator, and \$1,254 for the Membership Committee.

All members voted in favor to accept the President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary Reports.

There was no Immediate Past President Report.

Meetings

Fall 2004 Program and Local Arrangements Committees

As the committee meeting commenced, the program was underway and it was possible that the registration numbers would come close to 200 attendees. Early comments indicated that the Friday afternoon program was especially interesting for attendees. Reports will be submitted later.

Spring 2005 Program and Local Arrangements Committee

For the spring 2005 meeting, the Local Arrangements and Program committees will be combined into one committee. Since the committee only formed recently, a draft budget will be submitted by December 1, 2004. Jason Wood, chair of Local Arrangements, has booked conference rooms at the Simmons Conference Center. The conference hotel has not been selected yet. Due to construction, there will be little to no parking at Simmons for the spring meeting. The committee will devise solutions for parking.

Committee Reports to the Board

All members voted in favor of accepting the following reports (no action needed):

Print Coordinator, Membership Secretary, Education Committee, and Public Relations.

Development Coordinator Report

Jane Ward discussed the challenges in booking vendors for the fall meeting and the issues that affect vendor participation. She projected lower income for future fall meetings from vendors because of these factors. She is hoping to find more vendors for future meetings and requested that prospects be sent to her.

Newsletter Report

Meg Moughan acknowledged outgoing editor Chris Burns' work on the newsletter. Meg also requested that Michael Forstrom be appointed to the committee as a replacement for editor Michelle Light. *All members voted in favor of approving Michael Forstrom as News and Notes Editor with a term of three years (January 2005-January 2008) to replace Michelle Light.*

Ellen Doon reported that the proposal to publish a compilation of articles from the *NEA Newsletter* has been rejected by SAA. After a lengthy discussion about the merits of the proposal, it was suggested that it might become a 40th anniversary *NEA Newsletter* publication.

Outreach Committee

Anne Ostendarp reported that Archives on the Road programs are in demand and that the NEA information table at the SAA annual meeting in Boston was very successful. Outreach is currently developing collaborative projects with other committees. There was discussion about the distribution of the NEA bookmarks.

Web Committee

Anne Sauer reported that the Web site move went fine. She also discussed needed maintenance and redesign for the site. Skybuilders, the vendor for the Web site, can create an online membership directory for NEA. Membership will work with the Web Committee concerning the online directory. The Board discussed possible uses of the five email addresses provided to NEA through the vendor contract. Structuring the Web Committee in a way similar to the current structure of the Newsletter Committee and recruiting skilled people for this was discussed at length.

Haas Award Report

The Board discussed appointing a Representative At-Large to serve as an additional member of the Haas Award Committee. *All members voted in favor of approving that one of the Representatives At-Large serve as a Haas Award Committee member.*

Hale Award Report

Bridget Carr proposed new criteria for granting the Hale Award. The award would be granted for a specific purpose, such as attending a conference or workshop fees; the purpose could change every year. After discussion, the Board suggested that the Hale Award Committee not change the current criteria but examine future applications in case modifications to the criteria might be needed. *All members voted in favor of approving the Hale Award report with the recommendation that the Board not change the criteria for the award at this time and that the Board may reconsider the criteria in future.*

Membership Committee

The Board reviewed the proposed new membership

brochure. Discussion touched on the official mailing address for NEA as well as graphic identity and branding issues for the organization. Creating a new and consistent graphic identity and brand for NEA would be a lengthy but worthwhile process that could have a significant impact on the image of the organization. *All members voted in favor of approving that the brochure be accepted after review. All members voted in favor of approving that the President will form a branding committee to establish a graphic identity for New England Archivists.*

All members voted in favor of approving the Development Coordinator, Newsletter Committee, Outreach Committee, Web Committee, Haas Award Committee and the Membership Committee report.

Old Business

Anne Sauer reported briefly on the initial data from the A*Census survey.

Susan von Salis reported that the New England EAD Collaboration Working Group had a very successful meeting. They will continue to research the issues of creating and maintaining a New England regional EAD database. They are also considering applying for grants to create this proposed database. *All members voted in favor of approving the New England EAD Collaboration Working Meeting Report.*

Mary Ide will be drafting a letter of support for the Phillips Library at the Essex Peabody Museum.

New Business

Northeast Document Conservation Center asked NEA to co-sponsor their *School for Scanning* session to be held in Boston on June 1-3, 2005, the tenth anniversary of the *School for Scanning*. The Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners and OCLC are other co-sponsors. *All members voted in favor of approving that NEA be a co-sponsor of the School for Scanning to be held in Boston June 1-3, 2005.*

The next Board meeting will be January 19, 2005, at the WGBH offices in Boston. ☺

Please visit us online at
www.newenglandarchivists.org
 for more information
 about becoming a member of NEA

New Members

- Deborah A. Richards

Deacon W. J. Bissenden
 Diocese of Bridgeport

**Meredith Cherven-
 Holland**
 New York State Archives

Christine Connolly
 Yale University Library

Jennifer Fauxsmith
 Massachusetts State
 Archives

Dale H. Freeman
 University of
 Massachusetts Boston

Alison Gilchrist Picton
 Taft School

Sherry Hartman-Poggi
 Albany Medical College

Candis Joyce
 Swan's Island Educational
 Society

Allison B. Krug Simmons
 College - GSLIS

Florence Jasudowicz

Karen V. Kukil Smith
 College Sophia Smith
 Collection

Mark C. Maniak
 Williams College

Middlebury College

Catherine Pate

Nancy Schrock
 Harvard College Library

Stephen Showers
 Winthrop Group at Otis

Michael Spaniol

Meghan Vacca
 Rutgers University Libraries

Susan Odell Walker
 Yale University Walpole
 Library

Jennifer Walton

Bonnie Weddle
 New York State Archives

Reginald A. White Jr.
 Putnam County Historian's
 Office

Ursula S. Wright

Susan Zeigfinger

Vermont Law School

NEA Fall Meeting 2004 Session Reports

Publishing Historical Material: How to Make it Happen

This session was chaired by Fran O'Donnell, Harvard Divinity School. Presenters were Elizabeth Slomba, University of New Hampshire; Brian Sullivan, independent historical editor; and Peter Randall, Peter E. Randall Publisher, Portsmouth, New Hampshire.

This session focused on the process of publishing archival material. Each of the three speakers discussed the pitfalls and satisfactions involved in this process as well as the practical steps involved. The first presenter was Elizabeth Slomba, University Archivist at the University of New Hampshire. Elizabeth published a book with Arcadia Press on the history of hockey at the University of New Hampshire. Some of the points she covered in describing this experience were content negotiation, the proposal process, writing and selecting photographs for the book, the Arcadia philosophy, some editing problems that were encountered, the very quick turn around and publishing schedule pressures, the completed project, and the fact that it was up to the author to self-promote. She also reflected on the question of whether or not she would do this again, what it was like to work with the researchers, quality issues, and the usefulness of Arcadia books (specifically the use of photographs as visual wallpaper vs. historic artifacts/sources of information).

Brian Sullivan, currently an independent historical editor, was the second speaker. Brian was the senior reference archivist at the Harvard University Archives from 1995-2004. He spent several years transcribing the journals of poet and philosopher Francis Ellingwood Abbott (1836-1903), and he spoke about his experience in editing these journals into a publication entitled *If Ever Two Were One: A Private Diary of Love Eternal* (ReganBooks/Harper Collins, 2004). This book weaves together passages from the journals, pages of correspondence, photographs, and images of artifacts in an attempt to tell the story of the extraordinary love affair between Abbot and his wife Kate Loring. Brian spoke about his experience in being approached by the publishing company about the possibility of writing this book, his experience in working with the different formats of the material, some of the hard realities he experienced in meeting deadlines, and the expectations of the publishing com-

pany. He described how this experience went to the heart of what it means to be an archivist, which is making people's stories come alive for future generations.

The final speaker was Peter Randall. Since 1976, the company of Peter E. Randall Publisher has produced more than 400 books, most of them heavily illustrated volumes related to the history of New England people, places, and organizations. Peter talked about the essential elements of publication that are required to create a professional book, which includes book design (size and shape of pages, type of binding, paper, font, and cover design), the registration and recognition for the book (ISBN number, bar code, Library of Congress control number), copyediting, selection and type of illustrations for the cover and text (includes acquiring copyright permissions), determining print quantities, and selecting a printing process and printer.

Each of these speakers contributed a unique and interesting perspective on the process of publishing archival material. It generated some lively discussion and gave many people some helpful tips on what this process involves.

Photographic Fees and Services

- Nancy Noble

Chris Albert, Coordinator of Image Services at the Maine Historical Society, gave a lively talk about photographic duplication services based on what the MHS has been doing in their institution. How does one make money? Who is the audience? What are the costs? Institutions should do a market analysis of similar organizations and institutions to see what other places charge for services. An Excel spreadsheet assists in keeping track of orders. Mostly, Chris emphasized the need to say "no" but also to be flexible.

Chris had plenty of handouts, ranging from information on copyright to forms that MHS uses, including "Image Request," "Permission request for publication or display," and "Licensing Agreement." Chris also had information about VintageMaineImages.com, which allows the purchase of historic images online.

After Chris' presentation, a dynamic discussion ensued during which questions and answers ranged from copyright questions to the difficulty of charging fees to big money

donors of your organization. A discussion on fee structures followed; the participants agreed that policies should be consistent. Organizations might consider setting up discount structures to address friends groups and members. One suggestion that came from the participants was to create a line item within your budget for the money from the services. In other words, do not let the money go to the general operating fund of the organization; instead, be sure that the money is flowing back into the collections.

Housing Difficult Materials

- Nancy Noble

Ellen Dyer, Curator and Education Director at the General Henry Knox Museum in Thomaston, Maine, led an informal "group-therapy" session about housing difficult materials. The first half of the session was spent discussing the bane of the archivist's existence: scrapbooks. What is a scrapbook? Generally, a scrapbook is created by one person and may contain a variety of formats including newspaper clippings, invitations, memorabilia, and photographs. How does one care for it? Photocopy contents then pitch the scrapbook? Index it, if it is just newspaper clippings, and discard? Preserve by interleaving and placing in a box? Scan? Reconstruct? All options were discussed, including the physical problems of scanning and photocopying. Ideally all scrapbooks and albums should be put into phase boxes, but at the very least they should be boxed, either flat if oversized or in folders and document boxes if smaller, and also wrapped in archival board or unbleached muslin (for oversized scrapbooks). Cotton tape can secure them.

After a break the group came back to discuss other types of difficult materials to house, including considerations for oversized and framed documents, magnetic media, and glass plate negatives. The discussion started with best practices – hanging framed objects on a spare wall or specially made storage unit, storing oversized documents flat in archival folders and flat files, and putting glass plate negatives in four flap enclosures stored upright on their long edge in archival boxes. Then the discussion turned to lower cost strategies smaller institutions could implement to improve storage conditions in the short term. The group went over the Canadian Conservations Institute's instructions for creating padded blocks to store framed objects leaning against a wall,

as well as methods recommended by the Northeast Document Conservation Center for sealing wood to make it a safer alternative for shelving than bare wood. Everyone in the group had stories to share about practices that had been successful, and not so successful, allowing the group to benefit from a broad range of experience.

Speak Your Mind about Continuing Education

- *Jaimie Quaglino and Tamar Granovsky*

Representatives of the Education Committee met with attendees to discuss the topics, level of expertise, structure, instructors, and target audiences of educational workshops currently offered by NEA. Responses emphasized both the need to repeat extremely popular workshops (Digitizing Your Collections, How to Produce a Finding Aid, Caring for Historical Photographs, Preservation, Grant Writing) as well as keeping the workshops accessible (and affordable) to all enrollees. Among some of the ways suggested as methods to improve the workshops were to require

hand-outs from instructors (with defined terminology, bibliography, urls, etc.), limit class size to twenty members, make class content available online via basic web tutorials, and make a greater effort to collaborate with related, as well as underrepresented, organizations.

Discussion focused primarily on possibilities for collaboration with regional groups and associations, as well as working more closely with NEA's Outreach Committee to encourage membership, foster awareness of educational opportunities, and make NEA more visible to a variety of professionals in the field. In addition to making the educational workshops accessible to current professionals, discussion also focused on the possibility of outreach to non-archivists. Levels of class difficulty were also debated: should NEA continue to focus on basic workshops and leave advanced topics to SAA, or is there a need for increased current-issue and specialized workshops? When should these classes be offered, and when would they not be appropriate? How can the Education Committee achieve greater visibility and address upcoming needs while maintaining a minimal burden to its members? ☺

APPLY FOR THE HAAS AWARD

The Richard L. Haas Award is sponsored jointly by New England Archivists (NEA) and the Association of Records Managers & Administrators—Boston Chapter (ARMA).

The award is given to an individual who proposes a project that promotes increased cooperation, understanding, and knowledge between the archival and records management professions. Traditional examples of proposals are: attendance at seminars or workshops, preparing articles of interest to both professions, or research projects. The award is not limited to these suggestions. This explanation is somewhat ambiguous with the hope that people will be creative in their proposals. Preference, however, will be given to those that integrate records management and archival issues.

The \$500 award is not limited just to members of NEA, ARMA or even the New England area. Anyone, especially students and educators, is encouraged to apply. The successful candidate has up to a year to use the award after its announcement in April-May. Applicants should submit a form obtained from the chair of the Award Committee and send it to the same address by **March 1st**: Terry French, Chair, Richard L. Haas Award, Records Analyst, Archives at Columbia Point, Records Management Unit, 220 Morrissey Blvd., Boston, MA 02125, (617) 727-8216, fax: (617) 288-8429, <Terry.French@state.ma.us>.

Award recipients will provide a financial report of how the money was spent. They will also be responsible for writing an article for publication in the ARMA and NEA newsletters. ☺

News and Notes

CONNECTICUT

Getty Grant Supports Cataloging and Preservation of Architect Eero Saarinen's Papers

The Yale University Library has been awarded \$177,702 by the Getty to catalog and preserve its extensive collection of drawings, specifications, photographs, and other materials by Eero Saarinen (1910-1961), considered one of the twentieth century's most influential architects. In the 1970s, Saarinen's wife, Aline, donated to Yale a number of the architect's sketches, photographs, and other materials documenting his career. However, the bulk of the architect's papers remained with his successor firm, Kevin Roche John Dinkeloo and Associates, until 2002, when the firm donated Saarinen's materials to the library. Since its arrival, the Saarinen collection has become one of the most heavily used collections in Manuscripts and Archives, supporting a number of Yale courses as well as numerous scholarly and engineering research projects.

Saarinen, who immigrated to the United States from Finland in 1923, studied architecture at Yale, receiving a BFA degree in 1934, and joined his father's practice. After his father's death in 1950, Saarinen started his own firm. During his short tenure as an independent architect he designed a remarkable array of prominent buildings, several of which have become cultural and architectural icons.

Perhaps best known for the Jefferson National Expansion Memorial (Gateway Arch) in St. Louis, Saarinen also designed the TWA Terminal at Kennedy International Airport in New York, the Terminal Building at Dulles International Airport in Washington, D.C., and Bell Laboratories in Holmdel, N.J. He also designed several prominent buildings for his alma mater, including the wavelike David S. Ingalls hockey rink and Morse and Ezra Stiles colleges.

Yale and Tufts Explore Open-source Software for Preserving Electronic Records

Electronic information decays with age, both from damage to physical storage systems and from loss of integrity in the data. Archivists at Yale and Tufts universities believe the solution to this dilemma may be found in the Fedora

(Flexible and Extensible Digital Object Repository Architecture) software system, an open-source digital library application. The National Historical Publications and Records Commission has recently awarded a grant in the amount of \$196,908 to support testing of Fedora's capabilities to serve as an electronic records preservation system in the Yale University Archives, part of the Manuscripts and Archives department of the Yale University Library, and the Digital Collections and Archives of Tufts University. Yale's Electronic Records Archive Project will work in conjunction with Tufts to discover a method of capturing and maintaining digital records using Fedora. The project is also concerned with assessing the program's ability to trace the authenticity of the information and to manage data of varying sources and formats.

MAINE

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow and His Portland Home

The Maine Historical Society is pleased to announce the long-awaited publication of a new book devoted to the Wadsworth-Longfellow House, *Henry Wadsworth Longfellow and His Portland Home*. The forty-eight-page book includes articles on the poet and his family, as well as the history and restoration of the Wadsworth-Longfellow House. The house is owned and cared for by the Maine Historical Society.

Built in 1785-1786, the Wadsworth-Longfellow House, boyhood home of Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, served three generations of his family before opening as a museum in 1901. It opened to the public as Maine's first, and one of the nation's earliest, house museums. *Henry Wadsworth Longfellow and His Portland Home* celebrates the centennial of this National Historic Landmark and its restoration. Authentically restored to the 1850s, the poet would recognize many features of his boyhood home as it appears today.

The book, which is co-authored by Richard D'Abate, executive director of Maine Historical Society, Joyce Butler, former curator at Maine Historical Society, and Laura Fecych Sprague, restoration curator for the Wadsworth-Longfellow House, includes full-page color photographs of the restored rooms revealing many details of the interior and of the conserved family objects. Designed by Scott Vile of The Ascensius Press, *Henry Wadsworth Longfellow and His*

Portland Home is available as a soft-cover book for \$15.95 at Maine Historical Society.

New England Regional Genealogical Conference

“New England Crossroads” is the theme of this year’s Eighth New England Regional Genealogical Conference (NERGC), to be held from March 31-April 3, 2005, at the Holiday Inn by the Bay in Portland, Maine. The Maine Historical Society is pleased to be a sponsor of the event. Conference Co-chair Melinde Lutz Sanborn says, “NERGC brings exceptional quality at minimal price to new and established genealogists throughout New England.”

More than forty speakers will discuss a wide range of topics: New England Research, Ethnic Genealogy, Federal Records, Libraries and Records, Writing and Publishing, Skills and Methodology, DNA Research, and Technology. Additional features include: gatherings for special interest groups, a special session for first-time conference attendees, complimentary one-on-one consultations with professional genealogists at the “Ancestors’ Road Show,” and exhibitors of genealogical products and services from all over the U.S. and Canada.

Conference attendees are invited to use the Research Library at the Maine Historical Society at no charge throughout the conference. The library has one of the largest collections of genealogy material in Maine; the collection includes genealogies and family histories, microfilm census records from 1790-1920, and numerous vital records for Maine and New England.

Registration for the full conference is \$99 prior to March 1, 2005, and \$125 after that date. For registration materials and additional information, contact the New England Regional Genealogical Conference at (609) 924-9742 or <www.NERGC.org>.

Umbazooksus and Beyond: The Maine Woods Remembered

“Umbazooksus and Beyond: The Maine Woods Remembered,” an original exhibit presented by Maine

Historical Society (MHS), will run from Friday, January 28 through Sunday, June 5, 2005. Drawing from the library collection of Maine Historical Society, the exhibit chronicles the memories of a number of Maine woods visitors in the early decades of the twentieth century, represented in photographs, journals, and other writings. “This exhibit explores the nature of those memories and the journeys that spawned them,” notes exhibit curator Candace Kanes. “Memories of their days in the woods, encountered by those who followed, have helped to define Maine.”

The exhibit features the journals, diaries, and photographs of Henry Withee of Rockport, who paddled the Allagash in 1911; Margaret Stevens and Neal Allen of Portland, who spent their honeymoon in the area near Moosehead Lake in 1909; John W.G. Dunn of Philadelphia and St. Paul, MN, who went on frequent hunting-fishing trips to the Moosehead-Ragged Lake area from 1890-1904; and Emmie and Herbert Whitney of Lewiston and Charlotte Millett of Gorham, who traveled frequently to Katahdin in the early 1930s. Also included in the exhibit are a re-created early twentieth-century campsite, a canvas canoe and paddles, cameras, and fishing and camping equipment. Visit the MHS Web site at <www.mainehistory.org>.

Maine Historical Society Receives Grant To Preserve Historical Collections

Maine Historical Society (MHS) is pleased to announce that it has received \$1,969.10 to preserve and provide better access to its historical collections. The Maine Historical Records Advisory Board provided the grant with funds from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission. MHS is using the funds to support its project: “Re-housing of the John S. H. Fogg Autograph Collection.”

Acquired by the Society in 1894, the Fogg autograph collection of 5,000 signatures was created by John Samuel Hill Fogg (1826-1893). Born in Eliot, Maine, Fogg graduated from Bowdoin College in 1846. While a student at Bowdoin, Dr. Fogg developed a lifelong interest in collect-

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<www.newenglandarchivists.org>

ing autograph letters and documents, particularly those relating to the history of the United States. This autograph collection includes documents and letters signed by Ferdinand and Isabella in 1492, and by English monarchs from Henry VII (1497) to Victoria (1847). There are complete collections of autographs representing all the royal governors of the thirteen colonies, a complete set of the signers of the Declaration of Independence, and a complete collection of presidential and vice presidential autographs through Grover Cleveland. Hundreds of other important letters and documents signed by such notables as John Calvin, Sir Walter Raleigh, Sir Francis Drake, William Blake, William Wordsworth, and others are included.

Concurrent with re-housing the Fogg collection into archival boxes, folders, and interleaving papers, the collection is also being cataloged into PastPerfect, a collections management software. "Maine Historical Society continues to aim to upgrade the care and cataloging of the collections," notes MHS Archivist/Cataloger, Nancy Noble, "and this project stands as a model for item level care and cataloging of a very valuable and unique collection which is truly one of the treasures of the Maine Historical Society."

The Historical Collections Grant Program has been a joint project of the Maine State Museum and the Maine State Archives, a Bureau within the Department of the Secretary of State. For more information about the Historical Collections Grant Program, contact Janet Roberts at (207) 287-5791, <janet.roberts@maine.gov>, or visit the Web site at <www.mainehistory.org>.

MASSACHUSETTS

Outreach Committee Collaborates with Massachusetts Studies Project

- Submitted by April Hagins, Massachusetts Historical Society

At the Norwood Historical Society on October 23, 2004, the NEA Outreach Committee collaborated with the UMASS-based Massachusetts Studies Project (MSP) on a pilot program entitled *Massachusetts Memories Roadshow*. The goal of this new program is to scan images of documents and photographs related to emigration from local Massachusetts communities and make them accessible to educators via the MSP Web site, <www.msp.umb.edu/>.

Archivists from NEA were on hand the entire day to provide information about archives, examine items and offer suggestions for preservation. The event, which was covered in an article in the *Boston Globe* (see <www.boston.com/news/local/articles/2004/10/21/memories_as_history/>), was such a success that NEA and the MSP are planning to collaborate on all future *Massachusetts Memories Roadshow* programs.

Documentary Heritage Grant Program

Secretary of the Commonwealth William Francis Galvin and the Massachusetts Historical Records Advisory Board (MHRAB) are pleased to announce a competitive grants program for historical records in Massachusetts. The Massachusetts Documentary Heritage Grant Program has available \$100,000 to fund projects that promote and result in the documentation, preservation, and use of historical records in Massachusetts.

Applicants may request up to a maximum of \$10,000 for their projects. Certain expenses are subject to funding limits. The program is funded by Secretary Galvin and by a grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission. Eligible applicants are non-profit, public or private organizations, such as repositories, libraries, museums, community organizations, professional associations, or local or state government agencies. Priority will be given to local organizations and collaborative community projects. The deadline for initial applications is February 11, 2005.

A series of grant application workshops is scheduled for December and January. To register for a workshop or to discuss potential projects, please contact Bill Milhomme, Field Archivist, at (617) 727-2816 x257 or at <william.milhomme@state.ma.us>. Visit the MHRAB homepage at <http://www.sec.state.ma.us/arc/arcaac/acidx.htm> for program updates.

Humanities Series Available at Boston College's John J. Burns Library of Rare Books and Special Collections

The Burns Library is delighted to announce that the Humanities Series: Director's Files have been fully

processed and are available to researchers. Rev. Francis W. Sweeney, S.J. (1916-2002) founded the Boston College lecture series in 1958 and served as its Director until his retirement in 1998. Sweeney was a Jesuit priest and a faculty member in BC's English Department. The Humanities Series was established by Sweeney to expose students to many of the great creative and academic minds of the twentieth century.

Sweeney maintained extensive correspondence files with many of the individuals who spoke at Boston College. Particularly noteworthy are materials relating to Rev. Daniel Berrigan, S.J., Christopher Dawson, T.S. Eliot, Valerie Eliot, James T. Farrell, Robert Frost, Alec Guinness, John Hawkes, Seamus Heaney, George V. Higgins, Jack Kerouac, H.D.F. Kitto, Elizabeth Kray, Hans Küng, Mary Lavin, Thomas Merton, Richard Murphy, Sean O'Faoláin, Susan Sontag, Muriel Spark, Stephen Spender, Arnold Toynbee, and Robert Penn Warren. In addition to correspondence files, the collection also includes administrative files, financial records, scrapbooks, and photographs. Besides documenting the activities of the University, the records are also a valuable resource for biographers studying the individuals who spoke at Boston College.

It should be noted that Sweeney's faculty papers have also been processed. Both collections have detailed finding aids available for use by researchers in the repository. To learn more about the Sweeney Collections, interested persons can contact the Burns Library's Reference Department at (617) 552-4861 or at <burnsref@bc.edu>. See the Burns Library's Web site at <www.bc.edu/libraries/centers/burns/>.

Massachusetts Historical Society Launches New England Environmental History Initiative

Members of environmental organizations often are too busy with their primary task—preserving the environment—to pay much attention to the file drawers and closets of their old records, to the history of their own organization, or to the increasing scholarly interest in their movement's swift growth and impressive accomplishments.

The Massachusetts Historical Society's New England Environmental History Initiative, a new program named for the field of study it promotes, aims to ensure the preservation of records that document our region's tradition of environmental activism and conservation. With funding

Richard W. Hale, Jr. Professional Development Award

The Hale Award of \$1,000 is given annually by the New England Archivists to promote the professional development of archivists in the region. Individual members of the NEA are invited to apply for the award. Applicants may propose participating in an educational program or workshop, preparing a paper for possible publication or oral presentation, attending a professional meeting, or any other activity promoting professional development. The award cannot be used to purchase supplies or equipment. Recipients are expected to submit a report on their project upon completion to the *NEA Newsletter*.

The Hale Award Committee, which reviews the applications and chooses the recipient, is made up of the four

Representatives-at-Large on the NEA Executive Board. Elected board members are not eligible for the award during their terms of office and for one year after they leave the board.

The award honors Dr. Richard W. Hale, Jr., who was Archivist of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts from 1961-1976 and a founding member of the New England Archivists.

The deadline for applications is **February 15**. For further information, contact Bridget Carr, Boston Symphony Orchestra Archives, Symphony Hall, Boston, MA 02115, (617)638-9434, fax: (617) 638-9433, <bcarr@bso.org>. ☺

from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission, the Society will collaborate with a diverse advisory group of activists, academics, and policymakers to define the major environmental issues facing our region, develop priorities for collecting, and identify the raw materials needed to study the historic and ongoing relationship between nature and human society.

The first institution devoted primarily to collecting materials for research in American history, Massachusetts Historical Society has promoted historical scholarship and a public awareness of the American past since its founding in 1791. With this environmental initiative, the Society hopes to keep faith with its founders by being as “present minded” in documenting the new field of environmental history as they were for American national history, but with the same underlying mission: to collect, preserve, and communicate historical sources to all that can make use of them.

For more information about the New England Environmental History Initiative, please contact Cheryl Beredo at (617) 646-0567 or at <cberedo@masshist.org>.

New England EAD Collaboration Working Meeting

The New England EAD Collaboration Working Meeting was held on Friday, October 8, 2004, at NELINET in Southborough, Massachusetts. The meeting was organized by a small group of archivists and librarians from institutions across New England. The purpose of the meeting was to initiate a dialog between EAD implementers, repositories considering EAD, SHRAB representatives, and others about the feasibility of establishing a collaborative EAD resource in New England.

During the discussion it was generally agreed that there is a need for better networking and support among EAD implementers in the region. However, no consensus was reached regarding the creation of a regional EAD resource. On the more specific topic of a central database of finding aids in New England, too many questions were raised to form recommendations. Those questions included: How many repositories in New England have finding aids and would want to share them in an EAD database? Who is the audience? Should the final product include non-EAD items such as digital objects? Is there a value to aggregating find-

ing aids to collections geographically housed in New England or should a shared resource consist of materials about New England? What is the cost of maintaining such a database? How does that cost compare to the cost of providing access via the RLG's Archival Resources?

The course of action agreed upon at the meeting is to form a planning committee that will apply for a planning grant to further explore the feasibility of a regional EAD online resource and to answer the questions that arose during discussion at the New England EAD Collaboration Working Meeting. If you are interested in participating in the grant planning committee, or would like more information, please contact Michael Rush at <mrush@masshist.org>.

State Library of Massachusetts Completes the Alexander Parris Digital Project

In September of 2004 the State Library of Massachusetts completed the Alexander Parris Digital Project. The project was an effort to digitize Parris material held in the State Library and the collections of six Boston repositories. The Boston Athenaeum, Boston Public Library, Boston National Historical Park at Charlestown Navy Yard, Massachusetts General Hospital, Massachusetts Historical Society, and Historic New England all contributed documents to a searchable digital archive that contains images and transcriptions of more than four hundred items. Materials reproduced span Alexander Parris's career from 1803 to 1851 and include architectural and mechanical drawings, specifications, correspondence, and accounts. The online archive can be accessed at <www.parrisproject.org>. The Alexander Parris Digital Project was supported by the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services Technology Act as administered by the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners.

Alexander Parris (1780–1852) was one of the most prominent architect-engineers of Massachusetts in the first half of the nineteenth century. Parris's early career was spent in Portland, Maine (the digital archive contains a number of delicately rendered plans and elevations for houses Parris designed there), and Richmond, Virginia. Between 1815 and 1827, Parris emerged as Boston's leading architect. Parris's early projects in Boston include the David Sears House, Massachusetts General Hospital, and Faneuil Hall

Market (or Quincy Market). In the 1830s Parris began to design and construct lighthouses and beacons for the U.S. Treasury Department, work that took him up and down the eastern coast from Mt. Desert, Maine, to Pensacola, Florida. The digital archive holds material pertaining to fifty projects, including specifications for a Boston Customhouse, drawings of machinery for a dry dock at the Charlestown Navy Yard, and correspondence regarding the construction of a seawall on Rainsford Island.

Business papers of architects from the first half of the nineteenth century are rare. The Parris papers provide a window into a design professional's world and work and help to document the commercial and collaborative relationships that existed between Boston architects, engineers, and craftsmen of the 1820-40s. It is hoped that having digital access to Alexander Parris's papers will revive scholars' interest in his work, as well as the work of other early Massachusetts architects and engineers.

WGBH Receives Major Preservation Grant from the Library of Congress

WGBH, in partnership with WNET, PBS and New York University, has received a three-year grant from the National Digital Information Infrastructure and Preservation Program (NDIIPP). The grant will enable the organizations to work collaboratively to plan the procedures, standards, and structures necessary to establish an archive for the long-term preservation of America's public television programming now being produced, distributed, and stored in digital formats. The grant will also allow the organizations to examine issues associated with the preservation of corollary content, such as Web sites that accompany television broadcasts.

The NDIIPP grant acknowledges that as programs are increasingly produced in only digital formats, some of which are in the new high-definition standard (HDTV), old practices for preserving programs on videotape can no longer be relied upon. Entirely new innovative standards and procedures are now needed to ensure that digitally produced programs will remain available and accessible now and into the future.

WGBH and WNET are two of the major station producers of public television programming in the U.S.,

offering such influential series as WGBH's *American Experience*, *Frontline*, and *Nova* and WNET's *American Masters*, *Great Performances*, and *Nature*. The stations control many of the digital program materials considered at-risk and in need of new preservation strategies. WGBH Boston is America's pre-eminent public broadcasting producer, the source of nearly one-third of PBS's prime-time lineup, as well as many public radio favorites. WGBH-produced Web sites bring in fully 25% of the traffic on PBS' site, <www.pbs.org>, the most-visited dot-org on the Internet. WGBH is a pioneer in educational multimedia (including broadband and interactive television) and in technologies and services that make media accessible for people with disabilities. WGBH has been recognized with hundreds of honors: Emmys, Peabodys, duPont-Columbia Awards, and even two Oscars. In 2002, WGBH was honored with a special institutional Peabody Award for fifty years of excellence. For more information visit <www.wgbh.org>.

The WGBH Media Library and Archives (MLA) is home to half a century—almost half a million items—of rare footage of interviews with world leaders, award-winning documentaries and dramatic programs, and a vast array of musical performances and public affairs programming. The MLA establishes the policies and procedures for the access, acquisition, intellectual control, and preservation of WGBH's physical and digital production and administrative assets. The MLA also offers production organization of archival materials for broadcast programs, projects, and specialized program production research services.

In December 2000 Congress authorized the Library of Congress to develop and execute a congressionally approved plan for a National Digital Information Infrastructure and Preservation Program. The program aims to develop and implement strategies for long-term preservation of valuable archived materials. The complete text of the "Plan for the National Digital Information Infrastructure and Preservation Program" is available at <www.digitalpreservation.gov>.

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 <www.newenglandarchivists.org>
 for more information about becoming a member of NEA

NEW HAMPSHIRE

From a Frontier Town to the White House: Exhibition Offers New Insight into President Franklin Pierce

Of his close friend Franklin Pierce (1804-1869), Nathaniel Hawthorne wrote: "He comes before the people of the United States at a remarkable era in the history of this country and of the world." Pierce's presidency was the culmination of an unexpected rise to power from a small town on the New Hampshire frontier. How Pierce arrived at the office of president, and what that said about the nation he led, is the focus of a groundbreaking exhibition entitled "Franklin Pierce: Defining Democracy in America." Never before have Pierce artifacts, paintings, letters, and personal accounts been brought together on such a large scale. The exhibition is on view through May 8, 2005, at the New Hampshire Historical Society's Tuck Library.

The exhibition showcases more than 100 objects, paintings, photographs, and documents from the Society's museum and library collections, but also incorporates material from other institutions. The exhibition helps mark the bicentennial year of Pierce's birth and places his life in the context of American culture. His life and career, like that of many famous Americans, are understood through a mixture of scholarly interpretation and popular myth. The overall goal of the exhibition is to use the Society's extensive collection of Pierce-related materials to move the man out of the realm of myth and legend and to explore how he influenced, and was influenced by, ideas and events of his time.

Pierce spent his childhood in the remote town of Hillsborough and went on to become the political leader of New Hampshire growing up with the country in the first half of the nineteenth century. Surprisingly, only one complete biography of Pierce has been published in the last century, and little has been said or researched on the only person from New Hampshire to serve as U.S. President.

"Franklin Pierce: Defining Democracy in America" focuses on seven aspects of Pierce's life, world, and career: "Inheriting the Revolution" (influence of Revolutionary ideals on American thought and culture); "New Hampshire Democracy" (democratization of nineteenth-century American economy and politics); "Family and Friends" (influence of ante-bellum social and cultural networks on Pierce's

life); "Citizen Soldier" (Mexican War and the role of the militia in advancing national expansion); "The Great Debate" (antislavery and reform impulses threatening to restructure American society); "Young Hickory of the Granite Hills" (campaign and presidency of Franklin Pierce); and "In the Public Memory" (each generation judges public figures by its own beliefs, values, and needs). The exhibition content was developed in consultation with Pierce scholar Peter A. Wallner, author of a new book on the life of Franklin Pierce.

A series of public programs will be offered in conjunction with the exhibition, and a special issue of *Historical New Hampshire*, focusing on Pierce, will be published in early 2005.

RHODE ISLAND

Recent Acquisitions by URI Special Collections

The Church of the Advent, Pawtucket is closing and the University of Rhode Island (URI) will be the repository for its six cubic feet of records. The origins of the Church of the Advent can be traced to 1877 when German immigrant families established a church school for their children. URI has on deposit the Records of the Episcopal Diocese of Rhode Island along with thirteen distinct Rhode Island churches within the diocese. See <www.uri.edu/library/special_collections/episcopal>.

Special Collections has also received a small Albion hand press which will be added to our New Leaves Press Letterpress Printing Collection. The press and type are the gift of History Professor Emeritus Robert Gutchen, former proprietor of the Biscuit City Press, Kingston, Rhode Island. Most of the Biscuit City Press publications were printed on the Albion Press that Gutchen acquired in England in 1972. The press has an 11"x16" platen, was manufactured by Harrild and Sons in 1870, and carries the number 2521. This press joins its much larger version, an 1841 Albion with a 33"x22" platen, purchased in England by the Special Collections Unit in 1976.

Rhode Island Family Heritage Project

The Rhode Island Historical Society (RIHS) will begin development of an OPAC to encompass its varied

library and museum collections thanks to a \$75,000 Museums for America grant from the federal Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS.) The database is scheduled to launch in September 2005 and will be available via both the RIHS Web site <www.rihs.org> and public computer terminals at the RIHS Library in Providence. The three-year grant will help fund a pilot program called the Rhode Island Family Heritage Project. The first year will be used to select and install database and processing software. The following two years will be devoted to identifying, cataloging, and entering data on materials that relate to families in Rhode Island.

The RIHS was one of 190 successful applicants for funding out of a total of 829 requests to the Museums for America grant program. For more information, contact Rhode Island Historical Society Library, 121 Hope Street, Providence, RI 02906, <www.rihs.com/libraryhome.htm>.

VERMONT

November 7-13, 2004 Proclaimed Vermont Archives Week

Governor Jim Douglas proclaimed November 7-13 to be Vermont Archives Week. The proclamation is part of a regional effort, sponsored by the New England Archivists, to celebrate those who preserve and use New England's historical records. Vermont's Archives Week 2004 celebrated the work of teachers who are incorporating historical records into their lesson plans. Several Vermont organizations are working with teachers and archives to develop additional classroom material.

These include: Vermont Alliance for the Social Studies <www.vermontsocialstudies.org/links.html>, Flow of History <www.flowofhistory.org>, Vermont Community Work <www.vermontcommunityworks.org/vrp/curriculum/index.html>, and Vermont Historical Society's Community History Project <www.vermonthistory.org/community/index.htm>.

Vermont Archives Week celebrates the work of these teachers and organizations in working with repositories to bring historical records into the classroom. Archives Week is sponsored by the State Archives and the Vermont Historical Records Advisory Board. ©

ARCHIVAL ADVOCACY AWARD

Invitation for Nominations

NEA grants the Archival Advocacy Award (AAA) to an individual or institution demonstrating extraordinary support of New England archival programs and records, either politically, financially or through public advocacy.

Criteria

The award may be given to any individual outside of the archival profession or any institution other than libraries or archives. In considering who will receive the award, special weight will be given to support that has had a broad long-term effect and may include, but are not restricted to, the following type of support:

- sponsorship of successful political initiatives which have directly aided archives;
- financial support of important archival programs;
- increasing public awareness and support for archival issues.

Procedures

- Nominations should be submitted to: Mary Ide, NEA President, WGBH Archives, 125 Western Avenue, Boston, MA 02134.
- A nomination must include include a letter detailing why the nominator feels the candidate deserves the NEA AAA.
- Additional materials including, but not limited to, a curriculum vitae (resume), publications, works products, course outlines and evaluations may be submitted but are not required.

Nominations are due by June 1, 2005.

For more details about the Archival Advocacy Award, please see <www.newenglandarchivists.org/aboutNEA/awards/aaa.html> ©

SAA Workshop at NEA Spring Meeting

Archival Perspectives in Digital Preservation

April 28-29, 2005, Boston

How do you make the connection between fundamental archival principles and the idea of “digital preservation” as it has evolved since 1996? Come to this advanced seminar to find out. Drawing on a growing technical literature defining digital preservation requirements, the seminar explores how concepts such as integrity, authenticity, and trust are embedded in specific digital preservation development programs, including the work of OCLC/RLG, InterPARES, and selected European initiatives. In this seminar you will:

- Define key digital preservation concepts and how these ideas have evolved since 1996 from earlier work on “electronic records” and other archival initiatives;
- Know how at least three fundamental archival principles (integrity, authenticity, trust) underlie present ongoing

efforts to define digital preservation requirements;

- Review at least three specific digital preservation programs, including the Open Archival Information System (an emerging international standard), the international InterPARES project on authentic digital records, and efforts by OCLC and RLG to define and implement digital preservation concepts;
- Apply digital preservation concepts to specific digital archives collections, either those supplied by participants or by the instructor.

Participants should be familiar with the basics of digital technology, the fundamentals of database design, and metadata creation in an archives or library context. Passing familiarity with XML and SGML would also be helpful.

Instructor(s): Paul Conway, Director of Information Technology Services, Duke University Libraries

For more information on this professional education offering, including registration information, visit the SAA Web site at <www.archivists.org>. ☺

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Reviews

Imagining Archives: Essays & Reflections by Hugh A. Taylor, edited by Terry Cook & Gordon Dodds. Maryland: The Scarecrow Press, Inc., 2003. 254 pp. Softcover, \$35.00. ISBN: 081084771X.

- Marita Masuch, Graduate Student, Palmer Library School, Long Island University

Imagining Archives is a collection of writings by leading Canadian archivist Hugh Taylor. Taylor, who is interested in philosophy, approaches archival concepts with social and cultural theories to develop practices for present and future archivists. In these essays, Taylor questions archival practices in order to challenge archivists to re-examine their ideas and practice.

The book is divided into two sections. Part one consists of two essays by the editors, one each by Cook and Dodds. These essays provide information from Taylor's early days as an archivist in England and his eventual emigration to Canada, where he spent most of his career. His obvious commitment to, and love of, his chosen career shows in his many activities - editor of *The Canadian Archivist* (which preceded *Archivaria*), involvement in establishing the *Association of Canadian Archivists*, and his advocating of education for archivists. These two essays reflect the editors' admiration for Taylor and the inspiration Taylor provided to them over the years.

Part two is a collection of sixteen essays and reflections by Taylor from 1969 to 1997. These essays trace the development of his ideas taken from his many readings as well as his own experience. The editors chose writings they felt were the most representative of Taylor's ideas. These essays echo his views on the importance of education for archivists, his ecological approach to archival practices, and his interest in the thoughts of leading social theorists. The essays are presented in chronological order and trace the development of his ideas throughout his career. Readers will note how "The Media of Record: Archives in the Wake of McLuhan" marks the influence of media critic and theorist Marshall McLuhan's seminal 1964 work *Understanding Media: The Extensions of Man* on Taylor's own approaches.

The publication of this collection acknowledges and praises the significance of Taylor's work in the archival

world. The essays are Taylor's legacy to the archival world, all of which will continue to inform the practices of present and future archivists. This collection is very approachable for both the beginning and experienced archivist. Taylor's writings are enjoyable with many memorable turns of phrase and his undeniable skill in writing. This collection will be of interest to any archivist interested in the social foundation of archives and archival theory, and it is a valuable addition to archival science. ☺

Museum Archives: An Introduction, 2nd ed., edited by Deborah Wythe. Chicago: Society of American Archivists, 2004. 256 pp. Hardcover, \$45.00 (SAA member), \$62.00 non-member. ISBN: 1931666067

- Rachel Chatalbash is an archivist at the MIT Museum and at Northeastern University's Archives and Special Collections.

Any archivist working in a museum is well aware of the absence of literature on the subject of museum archives. Until this point, most available material has been in the form of short articles, disparate university records retention schedules, and listserv discussions. Furthermore, the available material is often outdated and does not address current needs. As an archivist working in an area museum, I was eager for the publication of the second edition of *Museum Archives: An Introduction* edited by Deborah Wythe.

A publication of the Museum Archives Section of the Society of American Archivists, *Museum Archives: An Introduction* is a compilation of essays by museum archivists from different types of museums across the country. While the sections are written by different museum archivists, they are brought together cohesively. In so doing, the essays testify to a recent emergence of a distinct working group of professional archivists. Concurrently, they also attest to the growing need for resources and continued communication not only among archivists, but also among archivists and colleagues in other disciplines.

The publication is broken down into four main sections. The first explores the history of the museum archives movement and provides a comprehensive general overview and introduction to the role of the archives and the archivist within the institution of the museum. The second section addresses archival fundamentals: appraisal, arrangement, description, research use, and oral history. The essays in this section describe general archival methods and apply them to

the types of material found in museum archives. The third section is on collection management. Topics such as records management, accessioning, preservation, and disaster planning are addressed. Also found in this section are essays focusing on the types of records (photographs, architectural records, objects, etc.) found in museum archives. Information to assist with appraisal decisions, processing, description, preservation, and conservation is included here. The fourth and final section discusses current concerns and issues pertaining to the museum and museum archives community and offers an extremely useful resource guide.

The publication does an excellent job of defining the relationship between the museum and its archives and the roles of museum professionals and archivists. It readily answers such questions as: where do museum archives fit within the larger context of the museum? What is the archive's function? What should the archive's mission and goals be, and how should these be determined? Just as important as defining for archivists what their work is, the publication also illustrates to museum administrators the importance of archivists to museums. Often, due to limited resources, understaffing, and even lack of knowledge, it is not an archivist who is put in charge of managing a museum's institutional history. A well articulated and convincing case, however, is woven throughout the book, explaining why it is important for a museum to have an archives and a professionally trained archivist.

It is undeniable that, due to their functions, museums often have types of record that other institutions do not, and the reader would have benefited from an in-depth analysis of

museum departments and the records they create. Instead, the discussion is organized according to the role of archivists and the record formats found in museum archives. An alternative approach would have been to enter the dialogue on museum archives through the analysis of a museum's functions and how these functions differ according to museum type. Offering chapters on exhibition records, educational program records, collection management records, etc. rather than photographs, audiovisual material, and architectural records might have been more helpful when trying to explain what differentiates museums from other institutions, as well as the work that museum archivists may perform.

Such an approach also lends itself to understanding how successful records management programs in museums might be implemented. As the essential records of museum departments may not fit within already existing, general records retention schedules compiled from other types of institutions, it is necessary for museum archivists and records managers to devise retention schedules of their own. A more detailed and exploratory look at records management programs for museums is critical.

This second edition of *Museum Archives: An Introduction* provides a wealth of general information and resources for both archivists and museum professionals. Perhaps more importantly, however, it provides a foundation upon which future discussions and analysis of archival theory and practice can be based. The first edition of the book was published twenty years ago. It is my hope that another twenty years will not pass before other publications are written to assist museum archivists. ☺

Three E-Mail Lists at a Glance

NEAboard: Established in February 2001, this is an unmoderated list that facilitates communication of the NEA Executive Board. However, it is also open to all current NEA members. Scope of messages is limited to discussion of issues that come before the NEA board; electronic votes may also be taken via the list at the discretion of the President.

NEAannounce: Intended to facilitate communication about NEA-sponsored events, programs, and elections. It is open to all current NEA members, who will automatically be subscribed. However, messages may be posted by members of the NEA board and committees only.

NEAdiscuss: An open forum for NEA members to communicate about items of common professional interest. Open to all members, and moderated by the E-mail Coordinator for content.

For more information, go to <<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/neaboard/>>.

Around and About

The Challenges of a Volunteer-run Group Processing Project

Mary Rieke, Processing Archivist, Western Connecticut State University

Processing a collection of personal papers is always challenging and it is even more so if the project, is volunteer-run, offers myriad preservation challenges, and is without secure processing space. As a student in library school, I participated in such a project. It was a learning experience that offered both great challenges and rewards.

Dr. Truman Warner was an anthropologist and historian who taught for almost forty years at his alma mater, Western Connecticut State University. During his lifetime, he made many contributions to the preservation and understanding of Danbury's history. For more than fifty years, Warner collected all kinds of printed ephemera. His 250-year old home and barn became a repository for his personal library and newspaper clippings. By the time Warner died, he had amassed some 350 boxes of materials consisting of his personal papers, correspondence, memorabilia, source materials for his projected book on the history of Danbury, student research papers on regional and local history, original sheet music, post cards, and newspaper clippings from local, regional, and national newspapers. Unfortunately, most of the collection had been stored in his barn and had a distinct smell of decaying paper and mildew. This was a perfect example of how not to store a collection.

In July 1997, two months after his death, Warner's estate donated his papers to the Ruth Haas Library at Western Connecticut State University.

Two personal friends and colleagues of Warner hoped to preserve his papers and presented the director of the library with a proposal to transfer the Warner collection to the library and process it. Since the library did not have an archivist or archives department at that time, they would direct the project. While they had no formal archival training, both were strong advocates of archives and preservation and were responsible, in many ways, for establishing the archives here. I was seeking my library of science degree at the time; my role was to train and supervise the numerous volunteers (retired faculty, staff, and former students) who expressed eagerness to help.

A grant from a local private foundation provided funding for acid free folders and boxes, a photocopier, and my stipend. Our time line was to begin the project in October 1997 and finish by January 1999. Phase One of the project included weeding and re-boxing Warner's papers before transfer to the university. We discarded everything with active mold and evidence of insect and pest infestation. In addition, two dumpsters with other materials such as periodicals and encyclopedias were discarded.

The weeding process ultimately yielded 100 boxes of local and regional history materials consisting mainly of newspaper clippings, which had to be photocopied due to the deteriorating condition of the paper. There were also research notes, primary and secondary source materials for a planned

book on Danbury's history, World War II correspondence and memorabilia, writings, personal correspondence and memorabilia, books, sheet music, post cards, and student research papers. Warner's personal papers contained items that were near and dear to him. He saved memorabilia from every event he attended, whether it was a grade school play, Broadway show, class trip, church gathering, or high school and college dances and plays.

To gain administrative and intellectual control of this collection, the project directors decided we should provide item level description in the finding aids. Thus, the contents of every folder and box had to be reviewed and summarized. Faced with item level description, I felt our timeline was unrealistic due to the size of the collection, and the fact that the volunteers and I met only one day a week. A decision was made to proceed with the item-level processing, but to review the timeline in six months.

During this time, the library was in the process of planning a move to temporary quarters while renovation of the existing library building took place. If we moved the collection to the library, we would have to move again when the renovation began. University administration (curiously, the library had no say in this) allocated storage and work space in the basement of a former state armory now owned by the university. The building had flooded on several occasions in the past and the basement space was without any climate control

measures. Our volunteers voiced their concern with the environment and lack of easy access to the building. After some time, we did relocate temporarily to space in the basement of the university library until renovation work commenced. At that point, the project was moved again – to the basement of an old campus building in need of renovation itself. The climate in each of the locations was less than ideal. The collection suffered water damage, in various degrees, in all three locations in addition to extreme fluctuation of heat and humidity. We also had little control over who had access to the rooms in which the collection was housed.

Despite the logistical problems, the project continued due to participation and assistance of the volunteers and leaders of the project. Phase Two involved processing Warner's research collection and personal papers. We tried to maintain the principles of provenance and original order throughout the collection with a few exceptions. Original writings by Warner were removed from the research collection, which was arranged by subject, and placed in his personal papers files and cross-referenced in the finding aid. Items that were clearly misfiled were re-filed into the proper subject file. All newspaper articles, unstable thermo-fax copies, fragile, stained and discolored papers were preservation photocopied and placed in acid free file folders and boxes. Rusted metallic fasteners were also removed.

In most cases, newspaper articles had to be trimmed in order to minimize extraneous news stories. Initially, the trimming task was left to the volunteers, whose sole responsi-

bility was photocopying the articles. This became a time consuming task for those volunteers so a decision was made that all volunteers involved in processing the collection should also trim the newspaper articles before passing them along for photocopying. While we initially saved some time, we later learned that each of us approached this task differently; a lack of uniform policies and procedures haunted us throughout the duration of the project. Also, due to lack of time and space, special format items were not segregated from the collection; items such as newspaper supplements, maps, and blueprints remained folded and stored in plastic bags.

The project began with ten volunteers. Since this was my first introduction to supervising volunteers, I was surprised when some of them arrived with preconceived ideas of what they would be doing: people avoided the unglamorous and mundane processing tasks, such as sorting and filing correspondence and reports, rearranging the collection by format, and flattening newspaper clippings. Faced with this mindset, I encouraged them to pick a subject that was of interest to them from the subject files to create enjoyable projects. But, it was obvious from the start that only those volunteers who enjoyed local and regional history and had a direct connection to Truman Warner would stay the course. After several weeks, many of them bowed out of the project. In the end we were left with four dedicated volunteers who worked until the last box was photocopied.

Several things that were not considered initially surfaced during the

latter part of the project. Some of the volunteers became ill or had personal situations that prevented them from working. Depending solely on volunteers to process the collection became problematic. We were lagging behind in photocopying and our deadline for processing the collection was rapidly approaching. In December 1998, the granting agency approved a no-cost extension of the project funding until December 31, 1999.

I have to acknowledge one of our four volunteers in particular, a former student of Warner's, who had a professional background as a title abstracter. She was able to take the contents of a folder, some of which were two or three inches thick, scan the articles, and synthesize the information within a short period of time. Since she worked with the major portion of the collection, she was able to identify and cross-reference related topics within the collection. I quickly discovered that the continuity of one processor resulted in a comprehensive finding aid that benefited staff as well as future researchers.

At this point in time, the directors decided the unprocessed boxes of materials should be weeded again in order to complete the project by the new deadline. All newspaper articles concerning national news were discarded. Also, in order to facilitate photocopying, the copier and unprocessed boxes had to be made available to anyone at any time during the work week. Arrangements were made with the campus police to unlock the door to the processing room to several other faculty members who volunteered to photocopy the collection until it was completed. Since

there was a lack of supervision and communication during that time, several volunteers used staples and scotch tape to keep lengthy news article together even though a set of instructions for photocopying was placed on each box.

Phase Three of this project is currently underway. I am reprocessing the Warner Papers by re-folding and re-boxing the collection and refining some of the original, rudimentary inventory lists. Special format items have been removed, flattened, and stored in the map case or oversized boxes. Missing portions of newspaper articles have been found and inserted into proper sequence, and duplicate copies of items such as student research papers and newspaper supplements have been discarded. The collection, as it was originally processed, was difficult to navigate and understand; researchers expressed frustration and were unable to use it unless an archives staff member was closely assisting. To make the collection more accessible, I am indexing

the collection by subject classification based mainly on terms and information derived from the inventories for future computer retrieval. I have also cross-referenced several other collections in the archives that complement the Warner Papers. To me, this illustrates the importance of continuity, communication, good planning, and leadership in processing a large collection.

Ultimately, the collection yielded many positive surprises for both volunteers and researchers. One volunteer discovered a student research paper on the 963rd Field Artillery Battalion of the Connecticut National Guard. The student who wrote the paper had interviewed her father, a colonel and former commander of the unit. It contained the historical data and movements of the 963rd during the Word War II. This was especially meaningful for her because her father never talked about the war while he was alive. She found a family treasure that can be passed on to future generations.

Quite by accident another volunteer found her long lost recipe for Christmas plum pudding, which had been published in the local newspaper during the 1970s. It was a serendipitous find; the recipe had been on the reverse side of an article she was reading, and her sister had just asked her for it!

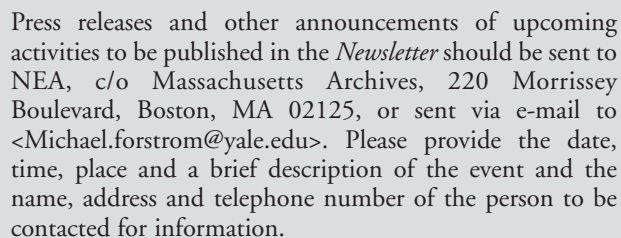
The last item to be transferred to the library was Truman Warner's letters to his mother and father during Word War II. Truman had the ability make his words come alive in whatever he wrote, evidenced by his early writings as a student. His Word War II letters to his family demonstrated his ability to convey images along with his prose. Most of his letters described the beauty of the Italian countryside rather than military operations. The military censors who read his letters thanked him for the armchair tour of Italy. These letters, originally, an overlooked part of the collection, may well prove to be one of the more significant portions of the personal papers.

The Warner Papers is by far the most used collection in our relatively young archives. Without the initiative of Truman's friends and colleagues, and without the help of dedicated volunteers, the collection probably would have sat in obscurity in an old Connecticut barn for many years to come. The project was a learning experience for all involved, especially for me, a new archivist. Work on the collection will continue. The next phase will be digitization for the Archives and Special Collections' Web site, a project on which I will most likely be working with volunteers again. I am looking forward to it. ©



A young Truman Warner at the beach with his family. Truman started amassing his personal collection of local history resources when he still very young. *Photo courtesy of Western Connecticut State University Archives and Special Collections.*

Calendar



Press releases and other announcements of upcoming activities to be published in the *Newsletter* should be sent to NEA, c/o Massachusetts Archives, 220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, MA 02125, or sent via e-mail to <Michael.forstrom@yale.edu>. Please provide the date, time, place and a brief description of the event and the name, address and telephone number of the person to be contacted for information.

January 6-9, 2005. The 119th Annual Meeting of the American Historical Association. Seattle, WA. See <www.historians.org>.

January 11-14, 2005. Association for Library and Information Science Education (ALISE) Annual Conference. Boston, MA. See <www.alise.org>.

January 24, 2005 - February 4, 2005. National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) and Library of Congress (LOC) sponsored Modern Archives Institute. Washington, DC. See <www.archives.gov/preservation/modern_archives_institute.html>.

January 31, 2005 - February 4, 2005. Northwest Preservation Management Institute's session on "Collection and Treatment Options." Seattle, WA.

February 11, 2005. SAA and NEA sponsored workshop on Networking and Telecommunications for Archivists. Boston, MA. See <www.archivists.org>.

February 12, 2005. SAA and NEA sponsored workshop on Understanding Web Technologies. Boston, MA. See <www.archivists.org>.

February 15, 2005. Application deadline for NEA's Richard W. Hale, Jr. Professional Development Award.

February 28, 2005. Deadline for nominations for the Harold T. Pinkett Minority Student Award, <www.archivists.org/saagroups/aac/Awards_Pinkett.htm>.

March 1, 2005. Application deadline for NEA's Richard L. Haas Memorial Award.

March 31 - April 3, 2005. New England Regional Genealogical Conference, Portland, ME. See <www.rootsweb.com/~ma>.

April 28-29, 2005. NEA Spring Meeting at Simmons College, Boston, MA. See <www.newenglandarchivists.org>.

April 28-29, 2005. SAA and NEA sponsored workshop on Archival Perspectives on Digital Preservation, Boston, MA. See <www.archivists.org>.

May 16, 2005 - May 20, 2005. Northwest Preservation Management Institute session on "The Digital World, Disaster Planning, and Implementation." Seattle, WA.

May 20, 2005. SAA and NEA sponsored workshop on Digital Libraries and Digital Archives. Boston, MA. See <www.archivists.org>.

May 21, 2005. SAA and NEA sponsored workshop on Digitization of Archival Materials. Boston, MA. See <www.archivists.org>.

June 1-3, 2005. 10th Anniversary School for Scanning. "Building Good Digital Collections." Boston, MA. See <www.nedcc.org>.

June 6, 2005 - June 17, 2005. National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) and Library of Congress (LOC) sponsored Modern Archives Institute. Washington, DC. Please visit <www.archives.gov/preservation/modern_archives_institute.html>.

August 13-21, 2005. Society of American Archivists Annual Meeting. New Orleans, LA. See <www.archivists.org>.

September 30 - October 2, 2005. Tocqueville Conference, Beinecke Rare Book & Manuscript Library. New Haven, CT. See <www.library.yale.edu/beinecke/>.

November 16-18, 2005. New England Museum Association (NEMA) Annual Conference. Burlington, MA. See <www.nemanet.org>.

July 31 - August 6, 2006. Society of American Archivists Annual Meeting. Washington, DC. ☺

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The "New Building" of Boston Latin School, circa 1933. BLS is the oldest continuous public school in the United States, dating as far back as April of 1635. In 1922 it was moved to its present location on Avenue Louis Pasteur, next to Simmons College, the site of NEA's 2005 Spring Meeting. For more information on the meeting, see page 5. *Photo courtesy of the City of Boston Archives and Records Management Division: Boston Public School Buildings Photograph Collection.*